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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/748,412	12/21/2000	Wouter E. Roorda	50623.26	3752

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Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P.
Suite 300
One Maritime Plaza
San Francisco, CA 94111

EXAMINER

PHAN, HIEU

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3738

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/748,412

Applicant(s)

ROORDA, WOUTER E.

Examiner

Hieu Phan

Art Unit

3738

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 10, 12, 18-20 and 24-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4, 10, 12, 18-20 and 24-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 2, 3, 10, 18-20, and 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fearnot et al. (U.S. Patent 5,609,629).

Fearnot et al. disclosed a porous stent (10) having second region (18) with component for reducing infiltration of macrophages (column 8 lines 46-67, column 9 lines 1-26) and first region (20 and or 24) with component for reducing or preventing the formation of thrombi (column 12 lines 39-41, Abstract, column 2 lines 66 and 67, column 3 lines 1-16 and 30-67, column 4 lines 23-39 and 48-61, column 5 lines 12-47 and column 7 lines 5-22 and 30-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 10 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fearnot et al. (U.S. Patent 5,609,629).

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Fearnot et al. discloses a porous stent (10) having second region (18) with component for reducing infiltration of macrophages (column 8 lines 46-67, column 9 lines 1-26) and first region (22), Fearnot et al. however fails to disclose a second layer comprising an anti-inflammatory substance select from a group of diclofenac, etodolac, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, ketorolac, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, clobetasol, diflucortolone, flucinolone, halcinolonide or halobetasol, betamethssone, cortical, cortisone, prednisone and prednisolone.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to disclose a second layer comprising an anti-inflammatory substance select from a group of diclofenac, etodolac, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, ketorolac, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, clobetasol, diflucortolone, flucinolone, halcinolonide or halobetasol, betamethssone, cortical, cortisone, prednisone and prednisolone.

Applicant has not disclosed that disclose a second layer comprising an anti-inflammatory substance select from a group of diclofenac, etodolac, ibuprofen, ketoprofen, ketorolac, nabumetone, naproxen, oxaprozin, clobetasol, diflucortolone, flucinolone, halcinolonide or halobetasol, betamethssone, cortical, cortisone, prednisone and prednisolone provides an advantage, is used for a particular purpose, or solve a stated problem. One of ordinary skill in the art, furthermore, would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with urokinase, dexamethasone or aspirin. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Fearnot et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 10 and 26.

5. Claims 4 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fearnot et al. (U.S. Patent 5,609,629) in view of Okada et al. (U.S. Patent 4,879,907).

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Fearnot et al. is explained as before. Fearnot et al. further lacking the coating includes an ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer.

Okada et al. discloses a synthetic vascular prosthesis having a hydrogel layer made of ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer (column 3 lines 33-40). The advantages of having a hydrogel layer are the hydrogel have good antithromobogenic property and good durability.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Myers et al. to modify the apparatus Fearnot et al. to have a coating includes an ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer. The motivations for incorporating the feature of Myers et al. into the apparatus of Fearnot et al. are the hydrogel have good antithromobogenic property and good durability.

6. Claim 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fearnot et al. (U.S. Patent 5,609,629) in view of Myers et al. (U.S. Patent 5,925,075).

Fearnot et al. is explained as before. Fearnot et al. further lacking the second layers is made of a material comprising poly-tetra-fluoro-ethylene.

Myers et al. discloses intraluminal stent graft having a stent (10) with a PTFE coating (20) (column 4 lines 51-63 and Example 1). The advantages of having a layer made of PTFE is the PTFE material has good biocompatible property.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Myers et al. to modify the apparatus Fearnot et al. to have a layer made of PTFE is the PTFE material have good biocompatible property. The motivation for incorporating the feature of Myers et al. into the apparatus of Fearnot et al. is the PTFE material has good biocompatible property.

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Conclusion


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hieu Phan whose telephone number is 703-308-8969.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Corrine M McDermott can be reached on 703-308-2111. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hieu Phan
Examiner
Art Unit 3738



CORRINE McDERMOTT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700